WHATELY AND DEERFIELD ROAD.

Hearings Before Legislative Committee on New Street Railway Enterprises—Meeting at Whately.

The Legislative committee on street railways had a hearing assigned for the second time on the petition of James Mitchell and others for incorporation as the Deerfield, Whately and Hatfield street railway company, but no one appeared and it was laid over. Then the committee took up the petition of Edward C. Crosby and others for an act to authorize the Northampton and Amherst street railway company to extend its railway into Whately and Deerfield. President Crosby of the road said that the bill proposed to allow the road to build about 6½ miles to connect the line in Hatfield with the Greenfield and Deerfield company's road. There would be connection near Sugar Loaf mountain. People of the towns want the road. The line will be easy to build. Representative Montague of Westhampton, who conducted the hearing, presented G. A. Billings of Hatfield to support the bill. The people of his town, he said, wanted the location, because the line would give them through connections. No one opposed the bill.

The meeting of Whately citizens at the town hall Monday evening in the interests of the project to build an electric railway through the center of the town, connecting it with South Deerfield on the north and with [illegible] the gathering. A delegation of West Hatfield citizens was present and they were strongly in favor of the enterprise. Lawyer Wallace Wilson of Boston, attorney for the Mitchells, who are the promoters of the trolley scheme, was also on hand and he explained the plans for the line. He called attention to the fact that the Northampton & Amherst Company also seeks charter rights in the town but does not propose to accommodate the Center. He said that if the townspeople wanted a line to run through the main street they should send a delegation to Boston to present to the Legislative committee that had the matter in charge the town's preference for the Mitchell road.

Several citizens spoke in favor of this plan and the following were appointed a committee to go before the proper Legislative committee and urge the granting of a charter to the Mitchells: S. B. Crafts, A. H. Beers, W. I. Fox of Whately, A. L. Strong and M. P. Bradford of West Hatfield. The sentiment of the meeting was that the charter, if granted, should be broad enough so that not only passengers, but United States mail, parcels, baggage and general express can be carried. Representatives of the Northampton & Amherst Company were not present at the meeting.

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